UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

March 31, 1967

JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA;
ET AL -

On March 31, 1967, Mr. I. Irving Davidson, 1612 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., a public relations agent, advised that he has learned through his associations at Teamsters Union Headquarters in Washington, D. C., that a number of Teamsters attorneys have been in frequent contact with Edward G. Partin. Partin, a witness in the Chatanooga, Tennessee, trial of subject, Hoffa, is alleged to be "cracking" under the threat of the pressure applied by the states of Alabama and Louisiana to prosecute him for crimes committed in those states.

In the hopes that Hoffa can aid him in connection with pending prosecution in Alabama and Louisiana, it is alleged that Partin may attempt to assert that his testimony against Hoffa was fabrication supplied him by Walter Sheridan, former aide to Senator Robert Kennedy. Davidson did not know how Partin was depending on any help from Hoffa, but noted that on two occasions prior to his incarceration, Hoffa received phone calls from Partin, both of which were recorded by means of "tape." The Teamsters are currently in possession of these tapes. During these telephone conversations, Partin is alleged to have pleaded for Hoffa's assistance to keep him (Partin) from facing a long prison sentence. Hoffa is alleged to have advised Partin to "simply tell the truth."

Davidson stated that a magazine believed to be "Life" has set aside in trust sixty-five or seventy-five thousand dollars for Partin's children in accordance with terms of an agreement relating to a story printed by the magazine about Partin's exploits. During one of the phone calls Partin

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mentioned this trust, indicating that the money would be lost if he states that his testimony was false. Hoffa, interpreting this as a request for money to substitute this loss, advised Partin that he could do nothing about the money. Davidson stated that Hoffa made this statement to Partin to preclude any additional accusations of bribery on Hoffa's part.

Davidson was unable to furnish any additional information concerning the above and was unable to further clarify or explain any of the above.

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